GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:380
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2001
SELF SUFFICIENCY IN DEFENCE PRODUCTION
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the reported pitiful condition of Defence Production in India as published in Dainik Jagran, New Delhi dated December 31, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ;

(c) whether the Government had made right assessment of the probable sanctions by United States and its friendly countries at any point of time while placing orders of defence items with them;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the impact of post Pokhran sanctions on major R&D projects inDefence sector of India noticed so far; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to become self-reliant in the matter of defence production?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US sanctions have had minor impact, mainly on completion time of some major programmes of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).The first flight trial of the first Technology Demonstrator (TD1) LCA was undertaken successfully inspite of sanctions. The sanctions had no impact on missiles being developed under Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP). Other major projects are also progressing satisfactorily.

(c) & (d): Alternate sources for procurement of some components and sub-systems which are affected or are likely to be affected by sanctions, have been developed.

(e) In order to enhance self-reliance in defence systems and technologies, optimum use is being made of the national expertise and infrastructure available in DRDO laboratories, other R&D institutions, academia and industry in public and private sector.